

Patent  
249/178 (prev. 6646-114N7)

In paragraph 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 47-61, under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Claim 47 recites *"automatically providing a connection with another one of said remote terminals in accordance with stored telephone numbers."* The Examiner indicates that the disclosure fails to provide support for such connection between a caller at a remote terminal with another remote terminal. By way of example, Applicant respectfully draws the Examiner's attention to pg. 7, lines 15-18 of the present application. At that location, the specification describes *"[f]or outbound operation, the unit 24 functions as an automatic dialer to attain desired connections through the units AR1-Arn in accordance with stored telephone numbers."* Further, the text at pg. 25, lines 34-35 through pg. 26, lines 1-2, of the present specification describes, *"[a]s indicated above, subsequent processing may involve subsequent operations to: **place related calls, fill orders and bill charges**"* (emphasis by bold added). Clearly, placing related calls would involve a call to another remote terminal.

Also, with respect to claim 50, the Examiner does not find support for the recitation *"testing at least certain of said data entered by said individual caller against a file including negative data."* Again, by way of example, Applicant respectfully draws the Examiner's attention to page 23, lines 4-11 of the present specification. At that location, the specification describes that *"[i]n one format, the process controller 46 has the caller's telephone number from an ANI communication from the facility CO which addressed the caller's data record. Various information then may be confirmed or supplemented in the register [34]. Note that the system as disclosed is adaptable to accommodate: first-time callers, callers of record and callers with **out-dated records**"* (emphasis by bold added). Clearly, the system confirms caller information by determining if callers are either first-time callers or callers of record, or callers with *"out-dated*

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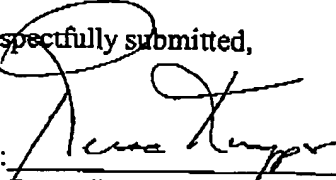
*records*" (one example of negative data). The remaining claims depend on either claim 47 or 50, and should be allowable for the same reasons argued with respect to claims 47 and 50.

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw her rejection of claims 47-61 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 and allow claims 47-61.

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9200 Sunset Blvd., Suite 1005  
Los Angeles, CA 90069  
(310) 247-8191

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
Reena Kuyper  
Registration No. 33,830

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**MARKED VERSION:**

50. (Twice Amended) A method for controlling voice-data communications via an automated control system for use with a communication facility including remote terminals for individual callers, wherein said remote terminals include a digital input device for providing digital responsive signals, said method comprising the steps[;] :

interfacing a call from said individual caller to the automated system;

receiving data entered by said individual caller including two forms of distinct identification data including caller customer number plus one other form of identification;

testing at least certain of said data entered by said individual caller against a file including negative data;

prompting said individual caller via a voice generator to enter additional data;

transferring the call from said individual caller to an attended terminal; and

displaying at the attended terminal, at least a portion of the data entered by said individual caller including at least a portion of the caller customer number.

51. (Amended) A method as defined in claim 50, further comprising the step of:  
further [qualifying] testing callers with respect to a limit on use with respect to each individual caller.